United Nations S/PRST/2006/4

Security Council

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25 January 2006
English
Original: French

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5356th meeting of the Security Council, held on 25 January 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns with the utmost firmness the attack against a detachment of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), which occurred on 23 January 2006 in the national park of Garamba, resulting in the death of eight Guatemalan peacekeepers and the severe wounding of five others. It offers its condolences to the victims' families and to the authorities of Guatemala. It commends the dedication of MONUC's personnel, who operate in particularly hazardous conditions.

"The Security Council considers this aggression to be an unacceptable outrage. The peacekeepers were involved in an operation against suspected elements of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) reported to be present in the park of Garamba. The LRA have conducted a long-running and vicious insurgency in northern Uganda which has caused the death, abduction and displacement of thousands of innocent civilians in Uganda, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Council calls upon the Government of National Unity and Transition immediately to take all necessary measures to bring to justice those responsible for this attack.

"The Security Council also condemns with the utmost firmness the recent seizure of villages in the area of Rutshuru, province of North Kivu, by insurgent elements. It expresses its concern at atrocities and human rights abuses which have been reported in this context. It considers all such actions to constitute a serious threat to the peace process and to the transition, and demands that these cease immediately. It stresses the need for unreserved commitment to the integration process of the armed forces, in the spirit of the Global and All-Inclusive Agreement.

"The Security Council further underlines the importance of the electoral process not being disturbed and encourages in this regard ongoing efforts for community reconciliation. It also stresses in this context the importance of early adoption of the electoral law under discussion in the Parliament, and of respect for the timetable drawn up by the Independent Electoral Commission.

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"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to, and respect for the national sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It expresses its solidarity with the Congolese people and its support to the Government of National Unity and Transition. It calls for the prompt extension of State authority throughout the Congolese territory.

"The Security Council reiterates its call upon States in the region to deepen their cooperation with a view to putting an end to the activities of illegal armed groups, and reaffirms that any recourse to the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of a State is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for MONUC, and urges MONUC to continue to fulfil its mandate with determination."

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Security Council

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3 February 2006

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5364th meeting of the Security Council, held on 3 February 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council commends the efforts of the African Union for successful deployment of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) and for significant contribution to the provision of a secure environment for civilians and the humanitarian situation in Darfur. The Security Council welcomes the African Union Peace and Security Council's recognition of the partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa.

The Security Council takes note of the 12 January 2006 Communiqué of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union in which the PSC expressed its support, in principle, for a transition from the African Union Mission in Sudan to a United Nations operation, and requested the Chairperson of the African Union's Commission to initiate consultations with the United Nations and other stakeholders on this matter.

The Security Council therefore requests the Secretary-General to initiate contingency planning without delay, jointly with the African Union, in close and continuing consultation with the Security Council, and in cooperation and close consultation with the parties to the Abuja Peace Talks, including the Government of National Unity, on a range of options for a possible transition from AMIS to a United Nations operation. Such planning should be undertaken on the basis of a unified, integrated approach; of maximum use of existing AMIS and United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) resources subject to the agreement of troop-contributing countries; of an assessment, to be confirmed by the Council, of the essential tasks to be carried out in southern Sudan and Darfur with a view to re-allocate existing troops and assets to the maximum extent practicable; and of a readiness to review and adjust the current structure of UNMIS, including command and control and logistics, at the earliest opportunity to make best use of available resources when the African Union deems a transition feasible and agreeable. The Security Council will be engaged throughout this process.

The Security Council emphasizes the importance of maintaining strong support for AMIS until any eventual transition is completed. The Security

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Council looks forward to an early decision from the African Union Peace and Security Council and will keep this issue under consideration with a view to reviewing the options submitted by the Secretary-General.

The Security Council stresses the importance of urgently reaching a successful conclusion of the Abuja Talks and calls on all parties to negotiate in good faith in order to reach a peace accord as soon as possible. The Security Council reiterates in the strongest terms the need for all parties in Darfur to end the violence and atrocities. The Security Council demands all parties to the Darfur conflict to cooperate fully with AMIS and to fulfil all the obligations to which they have committed themselves."

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Security Council

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3 February 2006

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5365th meeting of the Security Council, held on 3 February 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council congratulates the Palestinian people on an electoral process that was free, fair, and secure. It commends all the parties for the preparation and conduct of the elections, particularly the Central Elections Commission and the Palestinian Authority security forces, for their professionalism.

"The Security Council expresses its expectation that a new government remain committed to realizing the aspirations of the Palestinian people for peace and statehood. The Security Council welcomes President Abbas' affirmation that the Palestinian Authority remains committed to the Roadmap, previous agreements and obligations between the parties, and a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Security Council expresses its view that all members of a future Palestinian government must be committed to the aforementioned instruments and principles.

"Cognizant of the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people, the Security Council reaffirms its continuing interest in the fiscal stability of the caretaker government, consistent with clear reform and austerity benchmarks. The Security Council notes that major donors have indicated they will review future assistance to a new Palestinian Authority government against that government's commitment to the principles of non-violence, recognition of Israel, and acceptance of previous agreements and obligations, including the Roadmap.

"The Security Council reminds both parties of their obligation under the Roadmap and on existing agreements, including on movement and access. It calls on both parties to avoid unilateral actions which prejudice final status issues. The Security Council underlines the need for the Palestinian Authority to prevent terrorist attacks and dismantle the infrastructure of terror. It reiterates its view that settlement expansion must stop and its concern regarding the route of the barrier.

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"The Security Council reaffirms its profound attachment to the vision of two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, living side-by-side in peace and security. The Security Council reiterates the importance of, and the need to achieve, a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions including its resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002), and 1515 (2003), the Madrid terms of reference and the principle of land for peace."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5368th meeting of the Security Council, held on 9 February 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The question concerning Haiti", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council commends the Haitian people on the holding of the first round of national elections on 7 February 2006 with high voter turn-out, and congratulates them on taking this fundamental step towards the restoration of democracy and stability in their country. The Council calls on all parties to respect the outcome of the elections, remain engaged in the political process, and renounce all forms of violence. The Council wishes to thank the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), the Organization of American States, and others in the international community for providing crucial assistance to the Transitional Government and the Conseil Electoral Provisoire during this period.

"The Security Council underlines that the electoral process should lead to the inauguration of a representative government. The Council reiterates the importance of national, municipal and local elections as pillars of democratic governance in Haiti. The Council emphasizes that, once the new government takes office, Haitians should continue to promote national reconciliation and political dialogue in order to strengthen their democracy, and to ensure social, economic and political stability.

"The Security Council, while recognizing the importance of the elections for democratic institutions and procedures, stresses that they do not constitute the sole means to address Haiti's longer term problems and that significant challenges remain, in particular, in the fields of rule of law, security and development. Tackling these challenges will require a long-term engagement of the international community."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5371st meeting of the Security Council, held on 14 February 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning Iraq", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq announcement of 10 February of the certified election results for the Iraqi Council of Representatives. The Council is particularly encouraged that political parties representing all of Iraq's communities participated in the election, demonstrated by the high voter turnout across Iraq. The Council commends and congratulates the people of Iraq for demonstrating their commitment to a peaceful, democratic political process, and for having braved difficult conditions and the threat of violence to cast their votes.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of inclusiveness, national dialogue and unity as Iraq's political development moves forward. The Council calls on Iraq's political leaders to work with resolve towards the formation of a fully inclusive Government, which will strive to build a peaceful, prosperous, democratic and united Iraq. The Council urges all Iraqis participate in the peaceful political process and calls upon those who continue to use violence to lay down their arms. The Security Council unanimously condemns acts of terrorism in Iraq. Such acts should not be allowed to disrupt Iraq's political and economic progress.

"The Security Council gives special recognition to the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq for its role in organizing and administering the elections. The Council also commends the Secretary-General and the United Nations in successfully assisting election preparations, and notes in particular the role of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). The Security Council also appreciates the assistance given by other international actors, including EU electoral experts and the International Mission for Iraqi Elections (IMIE).

"The Security Council underlines the need for continued and enhanced international support from all States and relevant international organizations to assist Iraq's wide-ranging political, economic and social development. The Council calls on the United Nations to play the fullest possible role in Iraq. It also calls on all other international actors, particularly Iraq's neighbours, to conform to relevant Security Council resolutions and consider also how they

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can reinforce their contribution at this important time. In this context, the Council also looks forward to the continued efforts of the League of Arab States in support of the political process endorsed in Security Council resolutions 1546 and 1637.

"The Security Council reaffirms its support for a federal, democratic, pluralist and unified Iraq, in which there is full respect for human rights."